

CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR VALUES

Integrity

Courage

Respect



OUR MISSION

To create a safer Chico and to improve quality of life by partnering with our community and providing dedicated service.

IN MEMORIAM

On February 22, 1938, Chico Police Officer Carleton J. Bruce, age 36, was fatally shot while answering a call for service. Officer Bruce is the only Chico Police Department officer to lose his life in the line of duty.

Officer Carleton Bruce and Officer Tom Jones entered Joe's Tamale Parlor in downtown Chico to investigate an unknown disturbance. A suspect fired at the officers, striking Officer Bruce in the stomach. Officer Bruce was transported to Enloe Hospital where he was attended by several doctors, including Dr. Newton Thomas Enloe himself. Officer Bruce ultimately succumbed to his injuries. A clear motive for the shooting was never established.

The Chico Police Department vowed to never forget Officer Carlton Bruce or his devotion to the department and to the community of Chico. Annually, on February 22nd, Chico Police Department Honor Guard, Command Staff, department personnel and members of Officer Bruce's extended family gather at his gravesite to remember this fallen hero.



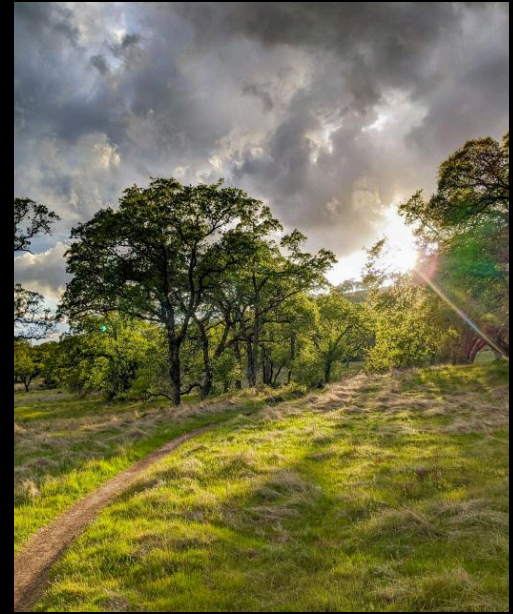
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CITY OF CHICO

Chico was founded in 1860 by General John Bidwell and incorporated in 1872. Located in Butte County, California, Chico is the cultural and economic center of the northern Sacramento Valley and the largest city north of Sacramento. Chico is known as a college town, the home of California State University, Chico and for Bidwell Park, one of the largest urban parks in the world.

Over the years, the city has grown to encompass over 34 square miles with a population of 113,847 (California State Department of Finance Estimate, January 2025). Chico maintains a special sense of community and small town living, even as it has developed into a vibrant regional center for business and cultural activities.



CHICO CITY COUNCIL



Michael O'Brien
District 1



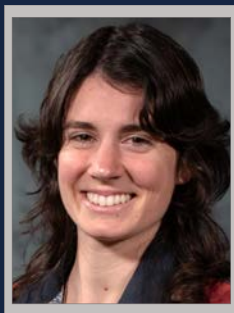
Kasey Reynolds
Mayor
District 2



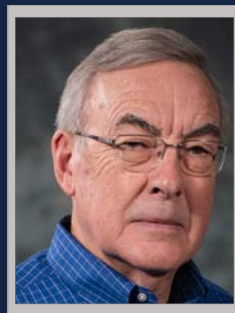
Dale Bennett
Vice-Mayor
District 3



Addison Winslow
District 4



Katie Hawley
District 5



Tom Van Overbeek
District 6



Bryce Goldstein
District 7

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

On behalf of the Chico Police Department, I am honored to present our Annual Review for 2024. This report offers a comprehensive overview of our department's activities and achievements, including:

- A summary of the department's operations
- Key workload metrics
- Crime and traffic statistics
- Notable accomplishments and initiatives

The purpose of this Annual Review is to provide a snapshot of the work done by your Police Department over the past year. While this report is thorough, it only represents a portion of the dedicated work our team has put in throughout 2024. As highlighted in last year's review, we had ambitious goals for the year ahead. I am proud to report that all of those initiatives were successfully completed and more have emerged.

Community Engagement in 2024

Fostering trust and strengthening relationships within our community continues to be a top priority for the Chico Police Department. Aligned with our strategic plan, we dedicated significant effort to enhancing community engagement throughout 2024. Outreach programs were expanded, including neighborhood meetings, National Night Out, the Citizens Police Academy, Coffee with a Cop, Shop with a Cop, and the Special Olympics Torch Run. We also participated in a variety of local events such as the Fourth of July Parade, Thursday Night Farmers Market, Christmas Tree Lighting, Ice Skating Rink, and events in downtown Chico. Additionally, the Retail Theft Watch program was reinvigorated to further engage with local businesses and residents.

By actively participating in community events and maintaining an open dialogue, the Chico Police Department continues to build trust and demonstrate our unwavering commitment to serving and protecting Chico.

Staffing and Recruitment

As part of our strategic planning efforts, we worked with a vendor to assess the growing needs of our community and develop a staffing model that will meet these demands moving forward. Chico's population continues to grow, and the Chico Police Department is dedicated to growing with it in a way that ensures we can continue providing top-tier service to our residents.

In 2024, 30 new employees were hired, working diligently to fill all open positions and new roles approved by the City Council. While staffing remains an ongoing challenge, the Chico Police Department is committed to reaching full staffing levels without compromising our high hiring standards. We take pride in the diversity of our department and are committed to continuing to build a team that reflects the community we serve.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF (CONT.)

Infrastructure and Equipment

To ensure the Chico Police Department remains responsive and prepared, several key projects were undertaken in 2024 to enhance infrastructure and operational capabilities. One of the most significant initiatives was a Facility Needs Assessment study to determine the requirements for a new police facility. The current building, constructed in 1984 to accommodate 50 employees, now houses over 100 employees daily, leading to the need for additional space and creating operational challenges. This assessment will guide future decisions regarding facility upgrades and expansion.

The department also continued to leverage technology to enhance our crime-solving capabilities. In 2024, our network of Automated License Plate Reader cameras was expanded, which have already proven invaluable in solving a range of cases, from theft to homicide. Additionally, we are in the process of implementing a Red-Light Camera System at the request of the City Council. This project, slated for completion in 2025, aims to reduce traffic accidents at key intersections, contributing to safer roadways for all.

Commitment to Service

As Chief of Police, I am incredibly proud of the dedicated efforts of our officers and staff. Their commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community is unwavering, and while this report only scratches the surface of their accomplishments, it reflects their tireless work and dedication. Our success as a department is directly tied to the trust and collaboration we share with our community. We are deeply grateful for the ongoing support we receive from the residents, businesses, and visitors of Chico.

We understand that keeping Chico a safe and thriving place to live, work, and raise a family is a shared responsibility. As our city continues to grow, we remain committed to strengthening our partnership with the community, ensuring that Chico remains one of the safest cities in California.

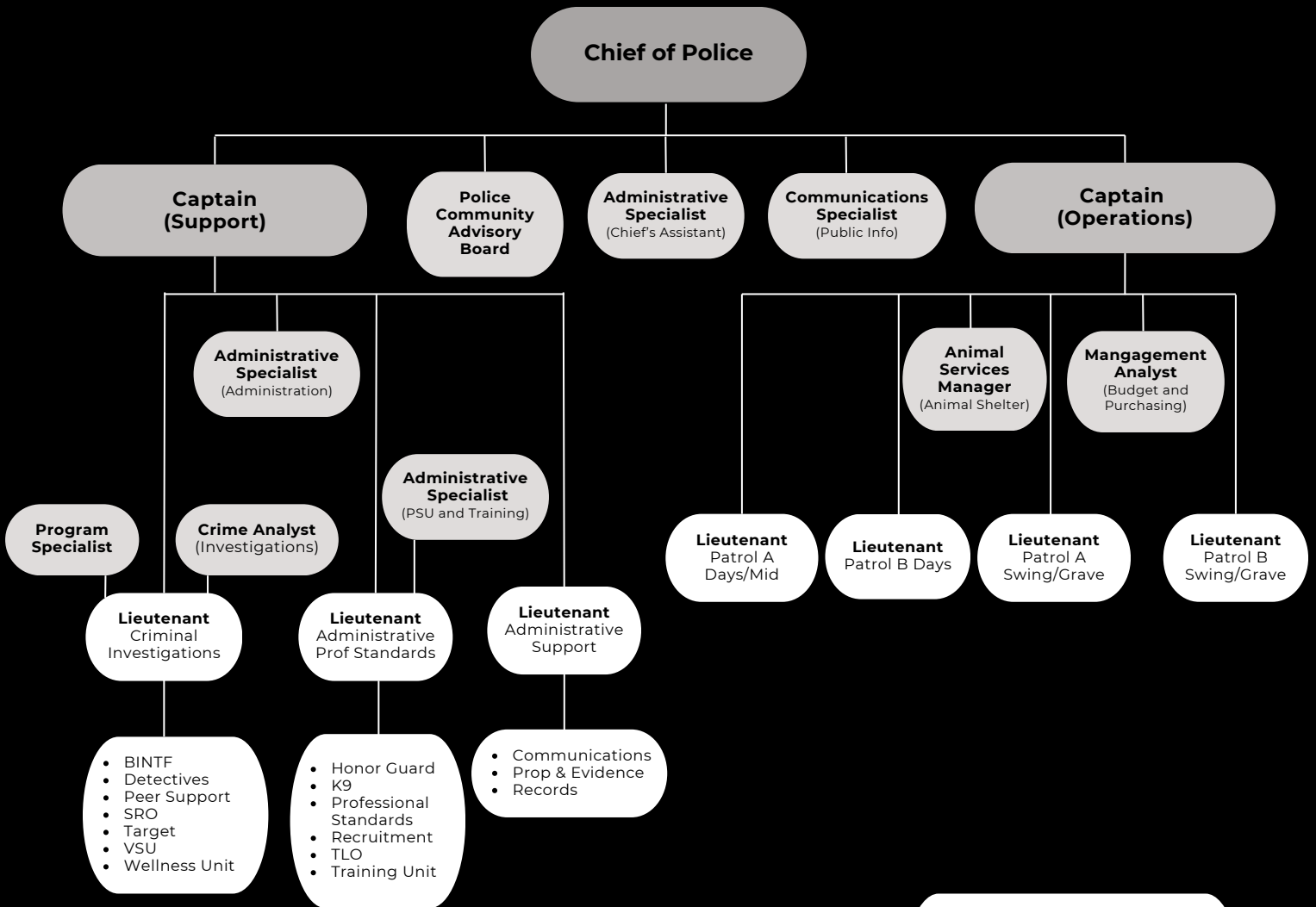
Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep Chico safe. We look forward to another year of serving and protecting this wonderful community.

Billy Aldridge



CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Organizational Chart



Acronym Key

BINTF: Butte Interagency Task Force
 PSU: Professional Standards Unit
 SRO: School Resource Officer
 TARGET: Problem Oriented Policing
 TLO: Threat Liaison Officer
 VSU: Violence Suppression Unit





COMMAND STAFF



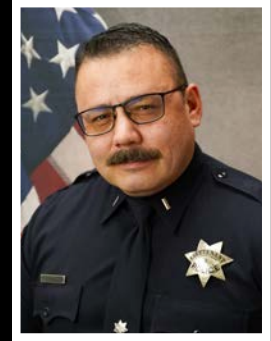
Chief of Police
Billy Aldridge



Operations Captain
Jeramie Struthers



Support Captain
Omar Peña



Patrol Lieutenant
Mike Rodden



Administrative Lieutenant
Brian Miller



Investigations Lieutenant
Ben Love



Administrative Lieutenant
Jeff Durkin



Patrol Lieutenant
Joel Schmid



Patrol Lieutenant
Peter Durfee



Patrol Lieutenant
Marcelo Escobedo

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET

The City of Chico receives funding from taxes, grants, charges for services, assessments, and fines. The city then appropriates this revenue to provide services to the community such as public safety, housing assistance, parks, public works projects and maintenance, among other services.

The Chico Police Department is primarily funded through the revenue in the City's General Fund.

*The remainder of the department's operating funds are received through a variety of grants.

Chico Police Department

Total Operating Budget*

\$41,226,865

Salaries & Benefits

\$33,809,071

Materials & Supplies

\$695,484

Purchased Services

\$617,777

Other Expenses

\$629,659

Non-recurring Operating

\$113,610

Allocations for Utilities and Internal Services

\$5,351,264

For further details, please see the FY2024-2025 Final Annual Budget on the City of Chico website at:

<https://city-chico-ca-budget-book.cleargov.com/19580/introduction/title-page>

TOTALS

City of Chico FY2024-2025

Total Budget

\$243,500,000

General Fund FY2024-2025

Total Revenue

\$98,309,000

Police FY2024-2025

Total from General Fund

\$40,206,251

DEPARTMENT STAFFING

The Chico Police Department is allocated 109 full time sworn and 82 non-sworn employees.

<u>Employee Classification</u>	<u>Full Time Positions</u>	<u>Filled Positions*</u>
Sworn Employees	109	108 (including 3 Academy)
Professional Employees	82	62
TOTALS	191	170

*As of 12/31/24

Sworn Personnel

<u>Title</u>	<u>Total</u>
Police Chief	01
Captain	02
Lieutenant	07
Sergeant	16
Police Officer	79
Park Ranger	03
<u>Vacant Positions</u>	<u>01</u>
Total Sworn	109

Professional Personnel

<u>Title</u>	<u>Total</u>
Communications Supervisor	04
Public Safety Dispatcher	14
Property & Evidence Supervisor	01
Evidence Technician	03
Records Supervisor	01
Records Technician	10
Management Analyst	01
Crime Analyst	01
Administrative Specialist	03
Communications Specialist	01
Police Program Specialist	01
Community Services Officers	12
Parking Services Specialist	02
Animal Services Manager	01
Animal Control Officer	02
Registered Vet Technician	01
Animal Services Technician	01
Animal Services Associate	03
<u>Vacant Positions</u>	<u>20</u>
Total Professional Staff	82

Vacant Positions

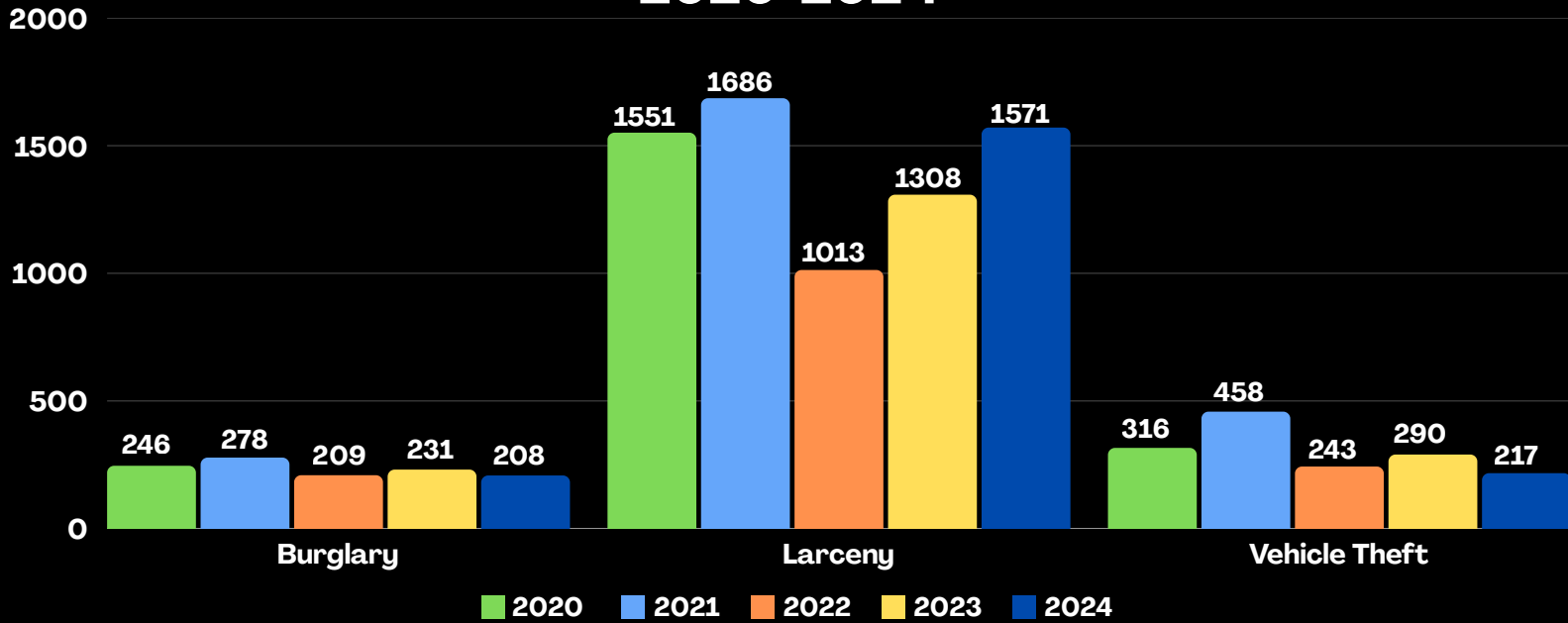
As of 12/31/24

Police Sergeant	01
Communications Supervisor	01
Public Safety Dispatcher	11
Community Services Officer	03
Animal Control Officer	02
Animal Services Technician	01
<u>Registered Vet Tech</u>	<u>01</u>
Total Vacant Positions	21

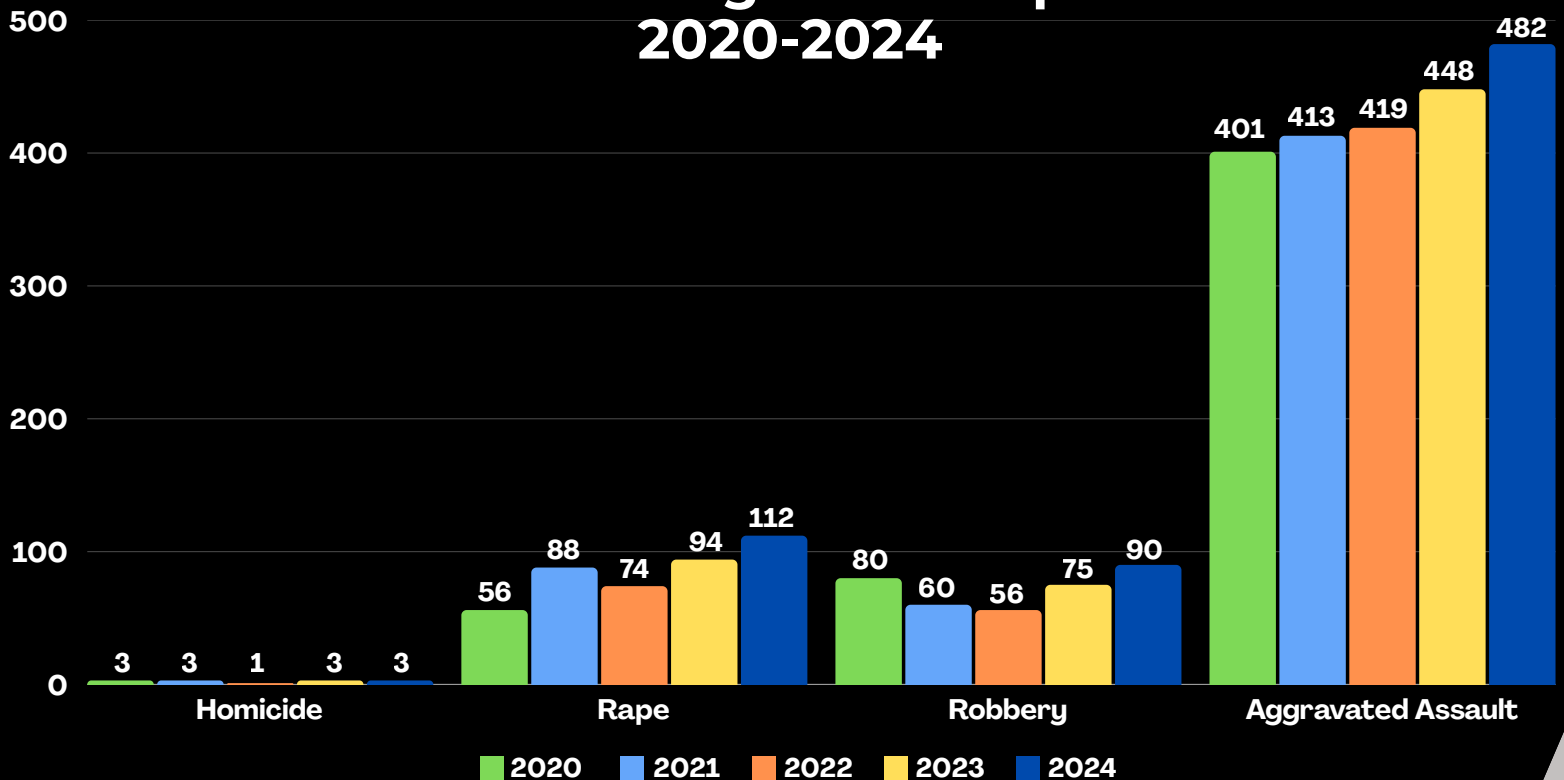
The Chico Police Department also employs hourly School Crossing Guards totaling 1.68 full time equivalent positions.

CRIME STATISTICS

Property Crimes 2020-2024



Crimes Against People 2020-2024



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Chico Police Department is committed to providing fair and impartial law enforcement services as we serve our community. The Professional Standards Sergeant is an integral part in maintaining the confidence of the public in the Police Department. The Professional Standards Sergeant’s primary job function is to investigate citizen complaints and conduct administrative investigations, while strictly adhering to the Peace Officer Bill of Rights.

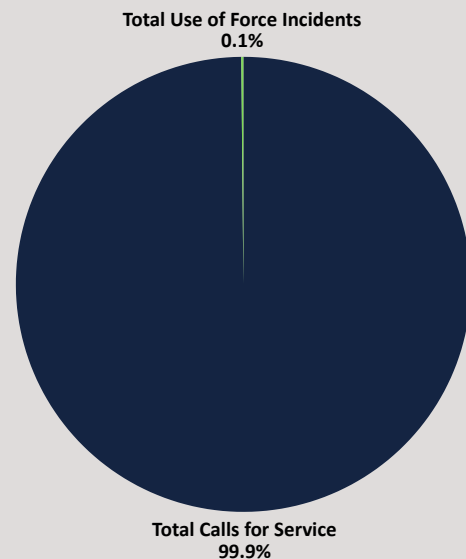
Personnel Complaints				
	2021	2022	2023	2024
Unfounded	0	10	3	3
Sustained	7	6	2	4
Not Sustained	2	6	2	0
Exonerated	3	10	7	0
Pending	0	0	15	16
Total	12	32	19	23

USE OF FORCE

The Chico Police Department is committed to providing fair and impartial law enforcement services as we serve our community. The Professional Standards Sergeant is an integral part in maintaining the confidence of the public in the Police Department. The Professional Standards Sergeant’s primary job function is to investigate citizen complaints and conduct administrative investigations, while strictly adhering to the Peace Officer Bill of Rights.

The Chico Police Department tracks all instances when an officer employed by the department uses force in the course of duty. In 2024, officers proactively initiated contact or were dispatched to 45,502 calls for service. Of those contacts, 67 or 0.147% of all calls for service resulted in an officer using force. These calls for service include 5,550 arrests and citations issued (*citations do not include Parking Services).

Use of Force Incidents Compared to Calls for Service	
Total Calls for Service	45,502
Total Use of Force Incidents	67
Percentage of Calls Resulting in an Officer Using Force	0.147%





NEW HIRES



Dispatcher
Adi Morfin



Property and Evidence
Technician
Dash Bunce



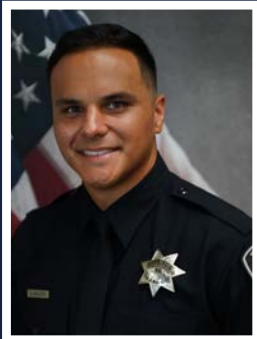
Animal Control Officer
Shelby Morse



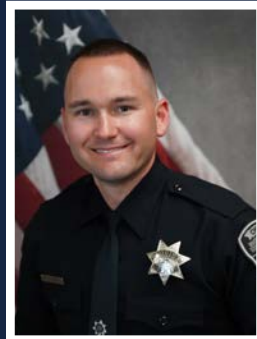
Records Technician
Julianne Keeney



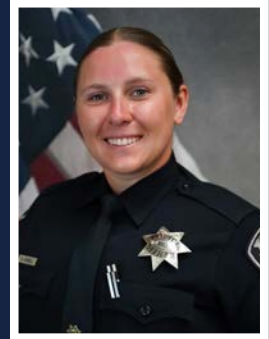
Police Officer
Jeff Kozak



Police Officer
Anthony Baletto



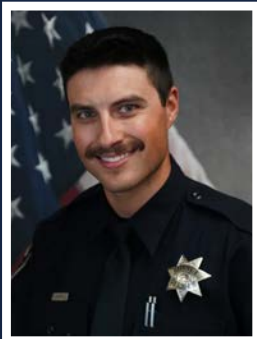
Police Officer
Randy Cooper



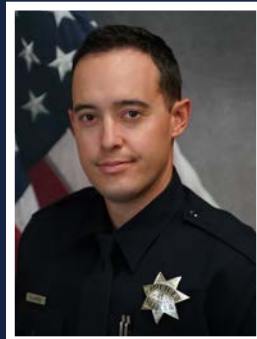
Police Officer
Anna Angel



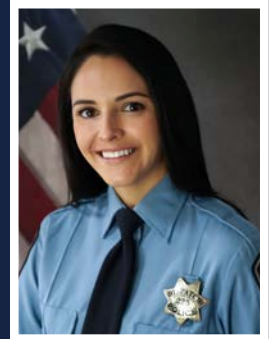
Police Officer
Spencer Blackwell



Police Officer
Mason Chappelle



Police Officer
Michael James



Dispatcher
Tania Vaquero



NEW HIRES



Dispatcher
Anita Penalosa



Property and Evidence
Technician
Regan Parkinson



Animal Control Officer
Hannah Booth



Records Technician
Trinity Chesonis



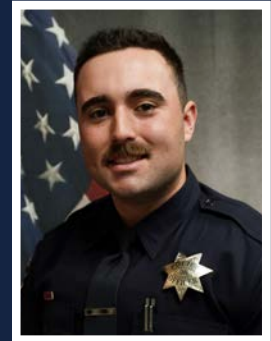
Records Technician
Heather Wallin



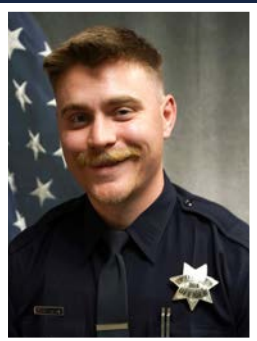
Community Services
Officer
Stephanie Vestnys



Community Services
Officer
Katie Campostrini



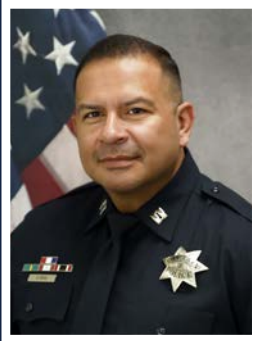
Police Officer
Luke Mobilio



Police Officer
Daniel Putman



PROMOTIONS



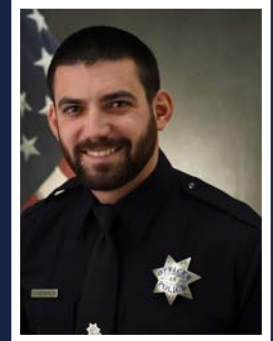
Captain
Omar Peña



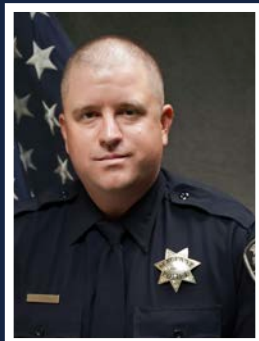
Lieutenant
Peter Durfee



Leiutenant
Marcelo Escobedo



Sergeant
Michael Consiglio



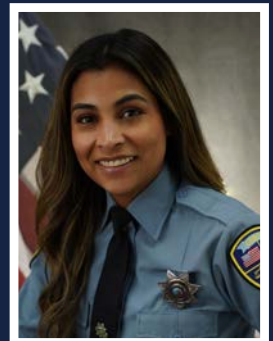
Sergeant
Alex Fliehr



Sergeant
Tyler Johnson



Sergeant
Keith Parsons



Property and Evidence
Supervisor
Hailene Cisneros



Administrative Specialist
Sarah Christensen



Animal Services Associate
Mallory Flickinger



Animal Services Associate
Ally Dawn



RETIREMENTS



Police Captain
Greg Keeney
Years of Service
07/07/96-07/11/24



Police Sergeant
Mark Bass
Years of Service
08/30/99-09/19/24



Police Officer
Carlos Jauregui
Years of Service
04/08/02-11/14/24



Police Lieutenant
Terry Tupper
Years of Service
12/19/05-12/28/24



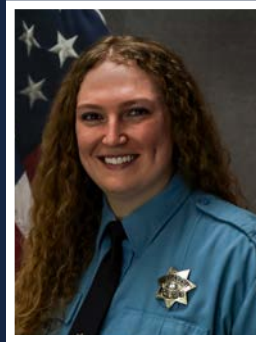
2024 AWARDS AND HONORS



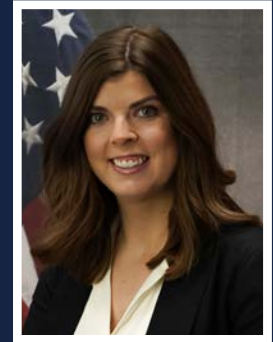
“Of the Year” award recipients are nominated by their peers and selected by the Chief of Police



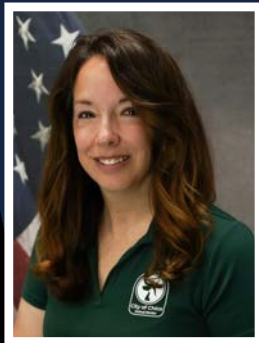
Tyler Rainey
Peace Officer
of the Year



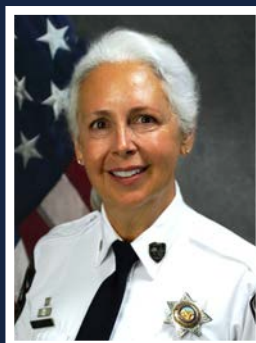
Mollie Shelton
Public Safety Dispatcher
of the Year



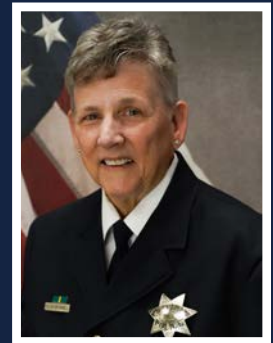
Carly Gott
Civilian Employee
of the Year



Amanda Mouisset
Animal Services Employee
of the Year



Kristi Bennett
Volunteer (VIP)
of the Year



Eilene Brownell
Chaplain
of the Year



The Chico Police Department Lifesaving Medal is awarded to members of the department who, while serving in an official capacity, distinguish themselves conspicuously by performing an act which likely results in the saving of a human life. The Lifesaving Medal is the third highest award presented by the department, after the Medal of Valor and Medal of Courage. In 2024, Chico Police Department awarded the Lifesaving Medal to two officers for their quick and decisive actions that saved a human life:

- Officer Robert Wright
- Officer Christopher Sullivan

PATROL



Patrol is the primary function of every municipal law enforcement organization and the backbone of the Chico Police Department. Most of the department's resources are assigned to Patrol. Patrol Officers are the first responders to both emergency and non-emergency calls for service and must be able to address crime and nuisance problems in the community.

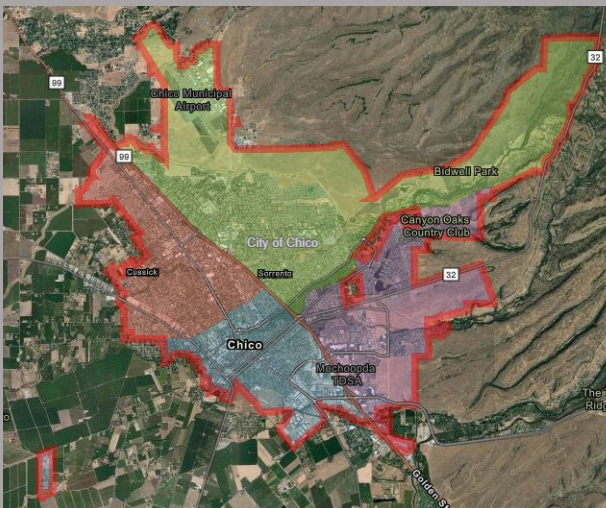
Chico Patrol Officers typically spend their shift answering calls for service, interacting with the community, writing reports, issuing citations, making arrests, and performing other activities as needed. Officers conduct proactive patrols in neighborhoods and business areas to deter crime and improve visibility. The Chico Police Department deploys Patrol Officers in two groups: an "A" Team and a "B" Team.

"A Team" is comprised of four shifts: Dayshift, Mid-Day/Early Swing Shift, Swing Shift and Graveyard. A Teams work Monday through Thursday on 10-hour shifts and provide 24 hours of coverage.

"B Team" is comprised of three shifts: Day Shift, Swing Shift and Graveyard. B Teams work three 12½ hour days on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, providing 24 hours of coverage.

The combination of all seven teams provide just enough coverage to respond to calls for service in a reasonable manner, as well as routinely taking self-initiated enforcement or crime prevention efforts as time allows. Many Patrol Officers are also tasked with "collateral" assignments. Each of these collateral assignments requires special training and expertise. Each assigned officer is expected to be available for deployment to special details or critical incidents. Examples of collateral assignments include:

- K9 Handler
- SWAT Operator
- Crisis Negotiator
- Field Training Officer
- Crime Scene Investigator
- Defensive Tactics Instructor
- Armorer
- Bomb Technician
- Firearms/Range Instructor
- Unmanned Aerial Pilot
- Major Accident Investigator
- Peer Support Team Member



The Patrol Division is authorized to be staffed with one Captain, four Lieutenants as Watch Commanders, eight Sergeants, fifty Police Officers and ten Community Service Officers to cover the four geographical "beats" within the City of Chico limits.

K9 UNIT

The Chico Police Department maintains three K9 Teams, assigned across the Patrol Division. K9 Officers are Patrol officers who have been selected to be handlers, and as such the K9 assignment is a secondary duty. K9 Teams respond to calls for service within their assigned beats as would any other Patrol officer.

K9 Pyro is a Plott hound and certified in scent specific tracking/trailing, bringing a unique skill set to the Chico Police Department. He is a non-apprehension canine that can be used to locate missing people, as well as crime suspects. K9 Pyro may also be utilized as a resource to allied agencies in the surrounding area. K9s Creed and Roman are trained in multiple disciplines to include narcotics detection and apprehension. K9 Teams are called upon to conduct high risk searches for dangerous individuals, searches of vehicles suspected of transporting narcotics, and apprehending violent and assaultive subjects. They are deployed to de-escalate violent encounters and mitigate injury or loss of life to officers or suspects.



Police K9s are specifically selected for their obedience, drive for work and willingness to selflessly sacrifice. Upon selection, K9 teams attend and must pass a 5-week California POST certified course. They train a minimum of 20 hours per month to maintain a K9s obedience, proficiency in their searches/apprehension and proficiency in narcotics detection. K9 Teams must also pass a yearly rigorous recertification course.

While the City of Chico provides for the purchase, training, and initial equipping of the K9 team, needs specific to the canine and its long-term care are provided by generous support from donations made through the North Valley Community Foundation's Chico Police K9 Fund: <https://www.nvcf.org/funds/Chico-Police-Department-K9-Unit>

Trainings: 151

Deployments: 102



K9 Pyro

Handler: Officer Page



K9 Creed

Handler: Officer Valencia



K9 Roman

Handler: Officer Stimac

DETECTIVE BUREAU

The Chico Police Detective Bureau conducts follow-up investigations on felony level crimes against persons and property. Detectives within the Bureau are well-rounded and investigate homicides, sexual assaults, child abuse, elder abuse, domestic violence, burglaries, and robberies. The Detective Bureau is responsible for processing Sex Offender and Arson Registrants. They also conduct Sex Offender Compliance checks throughout the year. This confirms the information reported by these Offenders is correct. Detectives also work closely with Butte County Children Services Division and Adult Protective Services to follow-up on community reports of Child and Elder Abuse (referrals). All Missing Persons are assigned to a Detective. Detectives work with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office Hi Tech Crimes Bureau, investigating Internet Crimes Against Children.

The Detective Bureau is allocated nine Detectives, two Sergeants, one Lieutenant, one Police Program Specialist and one Crime Analyst.



2024 Detective Bureau Statistics

Cases Investigated	367
Arrests/Requests for Complaint (RFC)	165
CPS Referrals	303
APS Referrals	260
Missing Person Cases Investigated	130
Sex Offender Registrants Supervised	220
Sex Offender Out of Compliance Arrests	4

Notable Cases

<u>Crime</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Summary</u>
Burglary	02/20/2024	Stansbury House Burglary (24-001166)
Home Invasion	05/03/2024	Home Invasion Attempted Sexual Assault (24-002934)
Occupied Burglary	07/21/2024	First Degree Burglary (Serial Burglars) (24-005073)
Arson	08/05/2024	Pallet Shelter Arson Investigation (24-005487)
Child Sex Assault	08/25/2024	Sexual Assault Investigation 30 Year Cold Case (24-006081)
Attempted Murder	08/18/2024	Safeway Shooting (24-005890)
Arson	12/11/2024	Bidwell Mansion Fire (24-008994)
Burglary	12/17/2024	Serial Burglar Investigation (24-009155)

TARGET

The goal of the TARGET Team is to reduce chronic crime and quality of life issues in the community using creative, long-term solutions. TARGET Team members, under the supervision of the TARGET Sergeant, are responsible for identifying and partnering with other community advocates and organizations to address these problems. History shows that the TARGET Team approach can be very effective in reducing calls for service to particular locations and persons, which helps free up time for Patrol to focus on their many other responsibilities.



In 2024, 908 calls for service were forwarded to TARGET. The team led the effort in clearing 530 encampments, in compliance with the Warren v. Chico settlement agreement. The TARGET Team is staffed with one Sergeant, three Officers, one Community Services Officer (CSO), and two Sworn Park Rangers. In 2024, Target was involved with:

- Summer bike patrol details Downtown, interacting with the Downtown Chico Business Association and Downtown Ambassadors.
- Networking with service providers including the Jesus Center, Torres Shelter, Pallet Shelter, Veterans Affairs, Nations Finest, and Butte County Behavioral Health.
- Partnering with local retailers in shoplift operations.
- Collaborating with City of Chico Public Works, Parks Department and Code Enforcement for cleanup and vehicle abatement while enforcing quality of life crimes in Chico parks, waterways and the Downtown Area.
- Reuniting those experiencing homelessness with family through the HELP Program.
- Community Events such as Neighborhood Watch meetings, Thursday Night Market, Coffee with a Cop, National Night Out, and the Special Olympics Torch Run.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING SERVICES



The Chico Police Department Traffic Division consists of one Motorcycle Sergeant, one Motorcycle Officer, three Traffic Officers assigned to vehicles, and two full-time Parking Services Specialists. Three Traffic Officers work dayshift, while two work swing shift with an emphasis on DUI enforcement.

The primary mission of this unit is to ensure public safety on the roadways. The Traffic Division specializes in traffic enforcement, collision investigations, and DUI patrols throughout the city. One Parking Specialist is dedicated to downtown enforcement, while the other is mobile and enforces parking violations citywide. In 2024, Parking Services Specialists issued approximately 9,000 parking citations.

Traffic Division Growth and Enforcement

In June 2024, the Traffic Division expanded from one Sergeant to a total of five enforcement officers. Over the last six months of 2024, the division:

- Issued 1,472 traffic citations
- Took 74 collision reports
- Investigated 103 minor or non-injury collisions
- Arrested 80 individuals for driving under the influence
- Towed 12 vehicles for suspended or unlicensed drivers

This growth has enhanced the department's ability to improve roadway safety and enforce traffic laws effectively.



MAJOR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION TEAM (MAIT)

The Major Accident Investigation Team (M.A.I.T.) consists of ten Police Officers from various positions in the department, including Traffic, Patrol, and Detectives. These officers have specialized training in collision investigation and are called to respond to major injury or fatal collisions. In 2024, M.A.I.T. investigated 16 collisions, including 6 fatalities.

TRAINING UNIT

Employees of the Chico Police Department require regular training to keep up with changing legislation, reinforce perishable skills and to introduce advanced techniques. The Chico Police Department Training Unit is tasked with coordinating all training for the members of the Police Department.

The Training Unit is staffed with one Sergeant and one Administrative Specialist. Personnel in the Training Unit must ensure that members of the Police Department receive all state mandated training, while coordinating ongoing career development training for staff.

The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) sets the minimum selection and training standards for California law enforcement. Training requirements are broken into two-year cycles. Every two years, officers are required to complete a minimum of 97 hours of mandated training. The number of actual training hours could be more, depending on specialty assignment or additional duties that an officer performs. Some of these collateral assignments include Armory, Bomb Squad, Crime Scene Investigator, Crisis Negotiation Team, etc.

24 hours of continuing education is also required every 2 years. 16 of those hours are course refreshers of perishable skills such as Emergency Vehicle Operation Course (EVOC), Firearms and Use of Force, while 8 hours are discretionary. Some of the minimum requirements for perishable skills may not be deemed adequate by Chico PD. The department can provide additional training based on funding and time allotted.

2024 Highlights:

- In 2024, the Training Unit provided 130 hours of internal training to department staff during in-service training days which covered Federal and State legislative mandates, California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) mandated training, and agency policy requirements.
- 130 members of the Police Department, both sworn and professional staff, were sent to external trainings for approximately 4,588 training hours.



FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM (FTO)

The Chico Police Department's Field Training Program (FTO) is the foundation of the development of its officers to function as a general law enforcement uniformed patrol officers for the City of Chico. The program is a minimum 22-week training program which starts when a new officer graduates from a California POST certified academy. The FTO Program is an intense hands-on training which follows a 5-phase plan with the goal of taking the new officer straight out of the academy to a level they can operate as a proficient solo-officer, capable of handling patrol calls for service independently.

The Field Training Program is also a requirement for Lateral Police Officers. A Lateral Police Officer is an experienced officer moving from one law enforcement agency to another. They may have several years of experience and training compared to a recent graduate from the Police Academy. The Field Training Program helps Lateral Officers transition to Chico Police Department and learn how to apply their knowledge and skills with the City of Chico. Due to prior training and experience, the Field Training Program for Lateral Officers may be shortened as a result.

The Chico Police Department has specific performance standards required for a new officer to graduate from the FTO Program. Governed by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), whose mission is to, "continually enhance the professionalism of California law enforcement in serving its communities," the Chico Police Department's FTO Program meets POST standards and exceeds them through training in Officer Safety, Control of Conflict, De-Escalation, knowledge of law and policies and communication, among multiple other categories (31 categories in all).

During 2024, seven new officers successfully completed the Field Training Program and all of these officers now work the streets of Chico as Police Officers. The new and current officers are expected to uphold the high standards we have developed, including our core values of Integrity, Courage and Respect. An additional three were hired in 2024 and are currently in the Field Training Program going into 2025.



WELLNESS PROGRAM & PEER SUPPORT TEAM (PST)

The Chico Police Department prioritizes employee wellness to foster fitness for duty and to support a healthy quality of life for department members. The wellness program is intended to be a holistic approach to a member's well-being and encompasses aspects such as physical fitness, mental health, and overall wellness.

The Chico Police Department Peer Support Team (PST) is comprised of nine employees including Police Officers, Sergeants, Dispatch, and Records personnel. The role of the Chico Police Department Peer Support Team is to be available to listen, support, refer, and assist employees and family members during professional or personal, stressful, or difficult periods in their lives. The Peer Support Team is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to all department employees.

The PST works closely with the Butte Strong Wellness Unit for health and wellness services and the Butte County Critical Incident Stress Management Team for major traumatic events.

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION (CSI)

The Chico Police Department Crime Scene Investigation Unit (CSI) is comprised of twelve officers assigned to the Patrol Division. These officers handle their normal patrol duties as well as the added assignment of CSI. They are specially trained in the detection, collection, preservation, and analysis of evidence and crime scenes. The evidence and documentation they assemble may later be presented in court. There is a minimum of at least two Crime Scene Investigators on call at any given time. These officers must be able to respond to any major crime that would require detailed processing.

The Chico Police Department has a mobile crime scene equipment trailer with state-of-the-art equipment that can be taken to almost any major scene. Recently CSI's have used new technology involving our Unmanned Aerial System Team (UAS) to map crime scenes for presentation in court.



UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM (UAS)

The Chico Police Department launched its Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) program—commonly known as the drone program—in July 2021.

By the end of 2024, the UAS team grew from 9 to 13 pilots and expanded its fleet from 13 to 15 drones. All pilots hold a commercial drone license (Part 107) issued by the Federal Aviation Administration. In addition to their regular duties in Patrol, Investigations, TARGET, and Community Services, these pilots are trained to safely operate drones. In 2024, the UAS team completed 300 flights across 132 missions. Since the program's launch, the drones have been deployed in over 450 incidents and thousands of training and mission flights.

Our UAS platforms offer a range of capabilities, including all-weather flight, thermal imaging, confined space and interior operations, payload delivery, spotlight illumination, public address systems, mapping, and 3D crime scene capture/rendering.

The team is deployed to assist various city resources and events, supporting Patrol, Investigations, SWAT, Crisis Negotiators, Bomb Squad, Training Division, Crime Scene Investigators, Community Outreach, Park Rangers, Fire Department, City Planning, Thursday Night Markets, and the Almond Bowl.

In 2024, the UAS program continued to prove its value as an indispensable public safety tool, enhancing the safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of Chico's public safety operations.



CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM (CNT)

The mission of the Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) is to respond to critical incidents and establish communication with barricaded subjects, hostage takers, or subjects of high-risk arrest warrants to peacefully resolve an incident. CNT is often deployed in a complimentary function with the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team to work towards the common goal of a peaceful resolution to a critical incident. CNT is a specialty assignment, in addition to an officer's primary duties.

The Chico Police Department Crisis Negotiation Team is comprised of nine Police Department Officers and Sergeants and one California State University, Chico Police Officer.



DEFENSIVE TACTICS



The Defensive Tactics (DTAC) training cadre is responsible for instructing arrest and control tactics for the Chico Police Department in order to safeguard all members of our community. Instructors teach all newly hired police officers in a 20-hour curriculum prior to the start of the Field Training Officer (FTO) program. DTAC Instructors also teach continuing education in perishable skills POST mandated courses. Furthermore, there are several instructors who also teach at the Butte College Law Enforcement Academy and are associate faculty. Our instructors bring their skills, training, and knowledge to the next generation of law enforcement officers in Northern California.

HONOR GUARD



The Honor Guard is a ceremonial unit comprised of specially selected, sworn members of the Chico Police Department. They serve as official representatives of the department and as "guardians of the colors" by displaying and escorting the national flag at various functions such as police funerals, memorial services, and a variety of civic events. In 2024, the Chico Police Department Honor Guard attended services for the annual graveside memorial service for our own Officer Carleton Bruce. The Chico Police Department Honor Guard regularly participates in a variety of community events each year.

BUTTE INTERAGENCY BOMB SQUAD



The Butte County Inter-Agency Bomb Squad is a regional response team comprised of seven officers/deputies from multiple Law Enforcement Agencies in Butte County. The Bomb Squad generally responds to explosives related incidents to provide expertise in identifying, threat assessment, rendering safe, and/or recovering explosives/explosive devices. The Bomb Squad also responds to critical incidents to provide robotic resources and explosive breaching capabilities to Butte County tactical teams in an effort to de-escalate situations and protect life. The Butte County Interagency Bomb Squad is one of approximately four hundred Bomb Squads in the United States and the only Bomb Squad between the Sacramento, CA and Redding, CA areas. The Bomb Squad is responsible for providing service to public safety agencies over a 12,000 square mile area which includes Butte County, Glenn County, Tehama County, Colusa County, Sutter County, Yuba County, and Plumas County.

The Chico Police Department has two trained United States Public Safety Bomb Technicians and one Trainee assigned, part time, to the Bomb Squad. Each Bomb Technician is a graduate of both the FBI's Hazardous Devices School (Redstone

Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama) and the Department of Homeland Security's (FEMA) Hazardous Material Technician Course (Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama). Bomb Technicians are capable of responding nation-wide for support on major incidents upon request from FBI.

During 2024, the Butte County Inter-Agency Bomb Squad responded to 28 missions within their response area:

- Explosives Recovery - 9
- Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Render Safe - 3
- Military Ordnance Recovery - 10
- Bomb Threat - 2
- Suspicious Circumstance - 2
- Hazardous Material - 2
- Critical Incident - 2

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS (SWAT)



The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team serves our community as a team of specially trained personnel whose mission is to preserve life during extremely high-risk operations and dangerous situations. Missions may include armed and dangerous subjects, hostage situations, and service of high-risk arrest or search warrants. Each member of the team undertakes the assignment voluntarily. As such, SWAT is an additional assignment on top of their primary duties.

The Chico Police Department SWAT Team is comprised of twelve Police Department Officers and Sergeants, four Dispatchers, and one Chico Fire Department Firefighter that serves as the team medic.

In 2024, SWAT was deployed several times in support of the Patrol Division and Investigation Bureau to assist with the apprehension of high-risk subjects.

BUTTE INTERAGENCY NARCOTICS TASK FORCE (BINTF)



The Butte Interagency Narcotics Task Force (BINTF) is comprised of agents from law enforcement agencies throughout Butte County and the State of California, trained in the investigation of illicit drug trafficking. The Chico Police Department has one Sergeant and one Detective assigned to the unit.

In 2024, Butte County, like many other counties in California, continued to see a high number of illicit drug overdose deaths, many of which occurred in Chico. As the prescription opioid crisis lessened in our region, a new, dual threat emerged in the form of synthetic drugs - fentanyl and methamphetamine.

As such, Agents continued to focus their efforts to address the distribution of both fentanyl and methamphetamine, along with illegal firearm possession, both in Chico and our region. Multiple BINTF operations were centered in the City of Chico, often in collaboration with members of the Chico Police Department.

BINTF recently sought and received a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) designation through the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and the Executive Office of the President. Butte County received the HIDTA designation in late 2022, becoming only one of five HIDTA designations in the United States for that year, and the only one West of the Mississippi. BINTF has the only detectives certified in processing clandestine laboratories north of Sacramento.

In addition to bringing enforcement related resources to Chico and Butte County, HIDTA also brings additional drug prevention and educational resources to our region. Partnering with existing drug prevention and education components within and surrounding Butte County, HIDTA enhances those prevention and educational efforts, which also play a critical role in the overall strategy of drug control policy.



COMMUNICATIONS

Public Safety Dispatchers are the first point of contact for most citizens with the Police and Fire Departments. These highly trained personnel provide a lifeline to law enforcement, fire, medics, and other emergency services.

The Chico Police Dispatch Center received 242,801 phone calls in 2024. The National Emergency Number Association (NENA) standard for answering 911 calls is 90% answered within (\leq) 15 seconds and 95% within (\leq) 20 seconds. Chico Police Dispatch exceeded these standards with 98.84% (\leq) 15 seconds and 99.57% within (\leq) 20 seconds.

Chico Police Dispatchers answer 911 calls, triage non-emergency calls, and quickly and effectively provide information to callers, officers in the field, and other first responders. The calls that Dispatchers receive vary widely; they can be as simple as questions regarding city services to life and death emergencies.



In addition to actively receiving calls for service, Dispatchers simultaneously operate Police and Fire radio and electronic data communications, which includes dispatching calls by priority, tracking the location of all field units, monitoring the status of police and fire personnel, and processing requests for records checks. Dispatchers have access to several state and nationwide databases to assist Officers in the field.

In 2024, Chico Dispatchers attended training courses to enhance their skills and knowledge on the topics of: Critical Infrastructure, Principled Policing/Implicit Bias, Dispatcher Wellness, and Conflict Management. Dispatchers also attended Training Officer courses, Supervisory School, the POST Academy Instructor Certification Course (AICC) and training for RIMS Records and Case Management System, which went live department-wide in April 2023.

CAD Incidents

Citizen Generated (Police)	72,923
Self-Initiated (Police)	11,913
<u>Total Police</u>	<u>84,836</u>
CAD Incidents - Fire	16,294
Other (Animal Control, VIPS, Etc.)	1,995
<u>Total CAD Incidents (Police and Fire)</u>	<u>103,125</u>

Phone Calls

Non-911	84,244
911	53,408
Admin Line	105,149
<u>Total (Inbound & Outbound)</u>	<u>242,801</u>
<u>Total (Inbound Only)</u>	<u>164,034</u>

Text to 911

Total Inbound*	1,157
<small>*Includes Citizen Initiated</small>	
Total Outbound	834
<u>Total Texts to 911</u>	<u>1,991</u>

RECORDS DIVISION

Records personnel are generally the first contact for citizens at the front counter of the Chico Police Department. Records Technicians staff the front counter and answer all non-emergency telephone calls during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m., excluding holidays).

Records Department 2024

Reports: 9,629

Online: 1,293

Warrants: 330

PRA: 3,437

Citations: 2,366

Cases sent to DA: 3,530

Other Records duties include assisting citizens with obtaining copies of police reports, fulfilling Public Records Act requests, releasing stored vehicles, accepting and booking found property, confirming corrections on traffic citations, and providing general assistance to the public.

When they are not assisting the public, Records Technicians are processing every form, citation, and report that is generated at the Police Department. They also prepare arrest reports for submission to the Butte County District Attorney's Office, Butte County Superior Court, and Butte County Probation Department for prosecution.

Records Technicians process all crime reports submitted by the public to our online portal, fulfill background check requests, fingerprint applicants, submit monthly crime statistics to the Department of Justice, issue permits for driver and vehicles for hire applications, and process subpoenas, warrants, and extraditions.

Maintaining the security and integrity of police records is an essential component of the Records Division. To accomplish this mission, the Records Section is staffed by a Supervisor and ten Records Technicians.



PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE

The Property and Evidence Section is responsible for receiving, documenting, storing, and maintaining the integrity and security of all items of property and evidence submitted by the Chico Police Department. The Property Section manages over 3,000 square feet of storage space, in which they have the duty to protect the chain of custody of over 55,000 items of property and evidence.



Property received into the department includes a wide variety of items to include bicycles, personal property, firearms, narcotics/controlled substances, biological evidence, money, and any items which may be viewed as evidence. Receiving property and evidence includes the responsibility for proper packaging, documentation, safety, and security of the items. Contamination of evidence by improper packaging can lead to questions of evidence validity in court. If precise documentation rules are not followed; including correct descriptions of evidence, serial number notation and receipts given to property owners, then there is also a question of the integrity of the evidence. Proper packaging also assures a barrier between the evidence handlers and the potentially hazardous items.

To help the Property and Evidence Section personnel with the storage of all items of property and evidence, the agency has continued to utilize a state-of-the-art tracking system. This system has built-in barcoding capabilities, a retention module that places a review date on all items brought into the facility, produces letters to the owners of property, and eliminates the need to handwrite Property Receipt Forms.

The Property and Evidence Section is managed with three Evidence Technician positions, along with the Property and Evidence Supervisor. Laws regarding the retention of property and evidence are constantly changing. Personnel must stay abreast of these changes and must evaluate each item of property and evidence for their retention.

Currently, the Property and Evidence Department holds 55,730 items.

Property and Evidence 2024

In 2024, the Property Section personnel handled a total of 6,196 items brought into the facility.

Handguns	103
Long guns	46
Bicycles	268
Cellphones	294
Backpacks	343
Items of Narcotics	733

(*Categories are not an exhaustive list of all items taken into Property and Evidence)



COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS (CSO)

The Chico Police Department employs ten full-time Community Service Officers (CSOs); nine assigned to Patrol and one assigned to the TARGET Team. In 2024, Patrol Community Service Officers booked 2,597 arrestees into the Jail Management System (approximately 7 per day). Additionally, CSOs made 1,486 transports to the Butte County Jail (approximately 4 per day), with over 62,000 transport miles driven.

Patrol CSOs support their assigned Patrol Team by taking non-emergency calls and authoring reports. In 2024, Patrol CSOs authored 1,543 police reports, including found property, cold theft investigations and missing persons investigations. They also assist with non-injury traffic accidents, and perform countless other duties in support of the Patrol Division.

The CSO Assigned to the TARGET Team helped several Chico Communities begin or maintain Neighborhood Watch programs, assisted businesses and residents and non-profit organizations with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) security surveys, authored crime prevention tips and public service announcements, and helped organize community safety programs such as National Night Out, and assisted the TARGET Team with unhoused encampment cleanups.



Community Services Officers 2024

Arrests Booked 2,597

Jail Transports 1,486

Reports Written 1,543

Calls for Service (Other) 1,802



RECRUITMENT

At the end of 2022, the Chico Police Department established a Recruitment Team to address low staffing levels amongst police officers.

Initially, the team was comprised of officers who would engage with potential applicants, devise hiring strategies, and support various stages of the recruitment process.

As the team evolved, it became evident that the hiring and recruitment challenges were multifaceted and brought in administrative personnel to enhance branding & marketing strategies, manage logistics, and streamline the background and hiring process.



In 2024, the Recruitment Team was responsible for recruiting:

- 3 Police Academy Trainees
- 3 Community Services Officers
- 2 Animal Control Officers
- 2 Lateral Public Safety Dispatchers
- 2 Public Safety Dispatch Trainee
- 5 Professional Staff members throughout Animal Services, Records, Property & Evidence, and Parking Services

The recruitment team's efforts resulted in the ability of department leadership to fully staff Patrol and begin staffing some of the specialty units that have long gone unstaffed, allowing the department to serve the Chico community better.

For more information visit:

<https://www.JoinChicoPD.com>

SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

The Social Media and Relations Team of professionals is committed to providing accurate, valuable, and transparent information to the community through our social media platforms in order to educate, notify, and inform them of emergency situations, special events, and the department's daily happenings and activities.

Be sure to like, follow, and subscribe!

Facebook

ChicoPoliceDepartment
27K Facebook Followers



Instagram

ChicoPoliceDepartment
10K Instagram Followers



YouTube

Chico Police Department California
26K Subscribers



ANIMAL SERVICES



Chico Animal Services is a section under the Chico Police Department and includes both Chico Animal Control and the Chico Animal Shelter. Animal Services provides mandated animal related services as required by law. Animal Control is responsible for enforcing all animal related municipal codes and state laws, picking up stray dogs, enforcing dog licensing, investigating bite reports, and quarantining animals for Rabies observation. Staff at the Chico Animal Shelter, which is owned and operated by the City of Chico, are responsible for housing animals picked up by Animal Control, and stray dogs, sick or injured cats and orphaned kittens found within city limits.

In 2024, shelter staff took in and cared for 1,250 animals. Staff adopted out 472 animals, returned 323 animals to their owners, and assisted with the trap/neuter/return of 17 cats. 103 animals were transferred to rescue groups, and 21 animals were transferred to other animal control agencies.

In 2024, the Chico Animal Shelter provided 368 Spay/Neuter surgeries for animals in our care. 265 of these surgeries were done in our on-site surgical suite.

Shelter staff work 7 days a week, including holidays, and we rely heavily on help from volunteers. The shelter hosts volunteers from Chico State, community service workers from multiple counties, as well as members of the public. Volunteers help with tasks like laundry, walking dogs, fostering animals and clerical work. To find out more about volunteering visit: <http://www.chicoanimalshelter.org/volunteer.html>

ANIMAL CONTROL BITE STATISTICS 2024

Reported Bites	Total	Vaccinated
Owned Dog	109	45
Owned Cat	22	10
Stray/Unowned Dog	30	0
Stray/Unowned Cat	121	0
Other Domestic Animals	0	0
Wildlife	2	0
<u>Total Reported Bites</u>	<u>284</u>	<u>55</u>

Animals Quarantined	Total
Dogs- 10 Days	109
Cats- 10 Days	22
Dogs- 30 Days	0
<u>Total Animals Quarantined</u>	<u>131</u>
Animals Tested	29
Tested Positive for Rabies	1



ANIMAL SERVICES

The city provides funding for animal control operations, running of the shelter facility (staffing, utilities and maintenance,) food and vaccines, and spay/neuter of adoptable animals. Many of our other costs are funded through generous donations made through the North Valley Community Foundation's three Animal Shelter Funds.

Donations to the Animal Shelter Medical Fund help to cover the cost of medical conditions ranging from skin infections, to orthopedic surgery, to enucleations. <https://www.nvcf.org/funds/chico-police-department-animal-shelter-medical>

Foundation Animal Shelter Fund Donations helps provide items like ice blocks to cool off dogs during the summer and supplies for foster homes. <https://www.nvcf.org/funds/chico-police-department-foundation-animal-shelter>

Donations to the Animal Shelter Equipment Fund help with the purchases of equipment. <https://www.nvcf.org/funds/Chico-Police-Department-Animal-Shelter-Equipment>



Beginning in 2023, the shelter's grant funded "Pet Pals" program has provided microchip scanners to volunteers in the community, helping to reunite lost animals to their owners without needing to enter the shelter. Since the inception of this program, over 220 lost animals in the community have been scanned for microchips!

<http://www.chicoanimalshelter.org/pet-pals-microchip-reading.html>

As a Pet Pal, members of the public may contact you to have a found pet scanned for a microchip and for help reuniting a pet with its family. If you would like to become a Pet Pal, either at home or through your business, please contact us at CASvolunteers@yahoo.com. We provide training and support for everyone participating in the program.



**WALK
WOOF WAG**
CHICO, CALIFORNIA

The annual Walk Woof Wag dog festival and walk is a fun day for dogs and their owners to enjoy a myriad of activities, games, and treats together followed by a group dog-walk in Chico's beautiful Lower Bidwell Park. The event always takes place toward the end of October, when the weather is mild and the park is lovely. In the past 11 years, this event has brought in over \$135,000 in donations to the Chico Animal Shelter medical fund! This fund is available outside of the city budget to cover medical needs for animals brought in so they can heal and find their forever home. For more information visit <https://chicowalkwoofwag.com>



VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE (VIPS)

Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) is an organization made up of a diverse group of uniformed citizens dedicated to serving their community. VIPS assist the Chico Police Department by performing routine police functions to help the department provide quality law enforcement service in our community. Duties include house/vacation watch, emergency callouts, special event detail, towing abandoned vehicles, LiveScan fingerprinting, Day and Night Patrol, Bidwell Park Bike Patrol, coordinating the Citizens Police Academy, and many other assignments. Assistance from VIPS allows police personnel to focus on proactive policing efforts.

The VIPS program is directly in line with the Community Policing philosophy of the Chico Police Department. VIPS are an integral part of the Chico Police Department, promoting safety and awareness and enhancing police services, thereby creating a better relationship between the Police Department and the Chico community. The Chico Police Department could not accomplish its mission without the aid of the Volunteers in Police Service.



CHICO POLICE CHAPLAINS ASSOCIATION



The Chico Police Chaplains Association exists to provide non-denominational physical, mental, and spiritual support to the City of Chico Police Department personnel and victims of crimes and tragedies in the greater Chico area. The Chaplains are all ordained ministers of varied religious organizations in Chico and serve on a volunteer basis.

Chaplains aid the law enforcement family in many ways, from counseling and spiritual support to comfort care, and enjoyment in the busy times of city-wide events. Chico Police Chaplains have ridden along for thousands of hours with officers on the beat; served officers meals during special operations; led in prayer over police memorials; counseled those suffering the natural severity of the profession; visited sick and injured employees; and performed wedding and funeral services for department employees. Strict confidentiality is kept, pursuant to the pastoral confidentiality available as ordained ministers.

Chaplains also serve as an extension of the Chico Police Department to members of the public impacted by unexpected death, crimes of violence, and critical incidents. On-call hours are on a 24-hour basis and each Chaplain has duty days when they will respond as called out to enhance public safety and well-being in accordance with the mission of the police department.

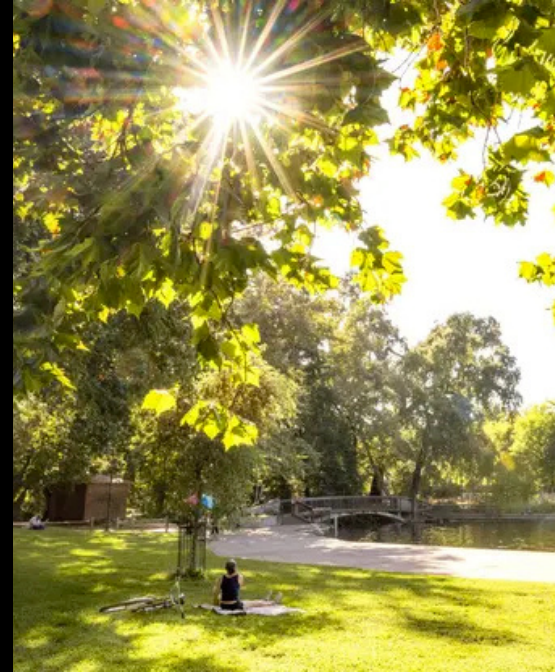


POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (PCAB)

The Chico Police Department strongly embraces the philosophy of Community Policing in all its daily operations and functions. The Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB) is a link between the Chico community and its police department working to enhance communication and transparency between the department and the public.

In 2023, PCAB began accepting applications for new Board members, of which, ten new Board members were selected by Chief Aldridge.

The board is composed of diverse members who represent stakeholders in the Chico community. PCAB is a resource for the Chief in the development of community policing strategies and addressing community concerns. By working together, the police and the community can improve the quality of life in neighborhoods citywide.



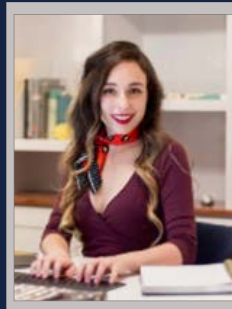
BOARD MEMBERS



Roger Efremsky
PCAB Chair



Dale Bennett
Councilmember Liason



Shelby Chase



Joseph Person



Celeste Cramer



Sandra Knight



Megan Kurtz



Julian Zener



Martin Nichols



Gildardo Ortiz

JOIN OUR TEAM!

The Chico Police Department is comprised of dedicated sworn and civilian personnel committed to the safety and well-being of our community. The Chico Police Department continues to seek capable and confident individuals who would like to make a difference.



APPLY ONLINE AT:

<https://www.JoinChicoPD.com>

